

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15826 192049Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UR US

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS WRAPS CSCE IN HOLIDAY RIBBON

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. PRAVDA (DECEMBER 19) AND IZVESTIYA (DECEMBER 15)
POST-ADJOURNMENT WRAP-UPS OF CSCE FOLLOW STANDARD
SOVIET PATTERN IN EMPHASIZING POSITIVE ELEMENTS OF
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TALKS, WITH BASKET THREE ISSUES THE ONLY NEGATIVE
FACTORS NOTED.

2. IN HIGHLIGHTING CONSTRUCTIVE ASPECTS OF GENEVA TALKS, IZVESTIYA SINGLES OUT U.S. DELEGATION FOR ITS POSITIVE ATTITUDE. U.S. DELEGATION FOR ITS POSITIVE ATTITUDE. U.S. DELEGATES CITED AS CALLING CSCE A LOGICAL CONTINUATION OF DETENTE PROCESS (WITH BOW TO ROLE OF NIXON-BREZHNEV MEETING) AND AS EXPRESSING HOPE DELEGATION CAN MAKE POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO CONFERENCE'S SUCCESS.

3. IN ONE SOUR NOTE, BOTH PAPERS CALL ATTENTION TO WESTERN EFFORTS (IN PRAVDA'S WORDS) TO "OPEN CHANNELS FOR SHATTERING SOCIALIST SYSTEM" BY MANIPULATION OF HUMAN CONTACTS ISSUES. BOTH REITERATE THAT CONTACTS SHOULD BE ON BASIS OF SOVEREIGNTY, NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND RESPECT FOR LAWS AND CUSTOMS. REFLECTING SOVIET IMPATIENCE WITH WESTERN SALLIES ON CONTACTS, PRAVDA ASSERTS THAT ENOUGH DATA ALREADY EXIST FOR PREPARATION OF FINAL DOCUMENT ON BASKET THREE.

4. BOTH ARTICLES RESURRECT A THEME WHICH HAS BEEN DORMANT IN RECENT SOVIET PRESS REPORTING OF CSCE-- FOLLOW-ON ARRANGEMENTS. IZVESTIYA MERELY MENTIONS CZECH PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, BUT PRAVDA GIVES IT A FULL PARAGRAPH.

5. COMMENT. PRESS TREATMENT OF CSCE IS CONSISTENT WITH OVERALL SOVIET DESIRE TO PUT CONFERENCE IN AS FAVORABLE A LIGHT AS CONTINUING PROBLEMS OVER BASKET THREE PERMIT. WHILE THE REVIVED PUBLIC EMPHASIS ON FOLLOW-ON ARRANGEMENTS INDICATES A FIRING OF SOVIET POSITION BEHIND CZECH PROPOSAL, WE BELIEVE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO BE LEERY OF ANY POST-CONFERENCE MECHANISM WITH ENOUGH TEETH TO ALLOW ANY BODY TO HOLD SOVIETS' FEET TO FIRE OVER HUMAN CONTACTS OR NONINTERFERENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE.SOMMERLATTE

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